



CANNOCK URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

TOGETHER WITH THE REPORT OF THE

Chief Public Health Inspector

1960





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MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL, 1960

Chairman: Councillor J. Holston, J.P. (until May)

Councillor J. M. Sunley, J.P., (from May)

Vice-Chairman: Councillor J. M. Sunley (until May)

Councillor I. J. Jacques (from May)

Councillors:

Alderman A. Hampton, O.B.E., J.P.

J. Jones

T. Lawrence

R. Amos

J. Hampton

J. James

Mrs. E. Jones, J.P., C.C.

B. Nicholls, J.P., C.C.

F. A. Pennington

E. W. Prime

W. Roberts

J. E. Steele

E. R. Whitehouse

Mrs. E. Astbury

L. J. Paine

H. Roberts

Mrs. H. Hallworth

D. E. Stubbs (from May)

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE, 1960

Chairman: Councillor Mrs. E. Jones, J.P., C.C.

Vice-Chairman: Councillor I. J. Jacques

Councillors:

Alderman A. Hampton, O.B.E., J.P.

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W. Roberts

Mrs. H. Hallworth

J. Holston (until May)

J. M. Sunley

D. E. Stubbs (from May)

STAFF

Medical Officer of Health.....R. Webster, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.,
D.T.M. & H.

Chief Public Health Inspector and Shops Inspector:—

(Died 8th June, 1960).....J. Ball, M.P.H.I.A.

(Appointed 5th July, 1960)..R. Heath, A.R.S.H., M.P.H.I.A.

Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector:—

(until 5th July, 1960).....R. Heath

(from 5th July, 1960).....H. R. Fry, M.R.S.H., M.P.H.I.A.

Additional Public Health Inspector:—

(until 5th July, 1960).....H. R. Fry

Assistant Public Health Inspector and Shops Inspector....N. Aston

General Assistant (unqualified).....J. Powell

Pupil Public Health Inspector.....L. Medlycott

Clerical Staff:—

Miss B. Stanley

Miss S. J. Corns

Miss S. J. Langston

Cleansing and Transport Superintendent.....C. F. Poole

Clerical Staff:—

Mrs. D. K. Batts

Miss M. Lockley

Public Analyst.....A. Houlbrooke, M.Sc., F.R.I.C.

STAFF OF THE LOCAL HEALTH AUTHORITY WORKING IN THE CANNOCK AREA

Mrs. S. Leach, S.R.N.

Mrs. H. M. Thomson, S.R.N., S.C.M., S.R.F.N., H.V.

Mrs. H. M. Box, S.R.N.

Mrs. M. E. Vaughan, S.R.N.

Mrs. E. R. Ledington, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.

Miss A. M. M. Girdlestone, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE CANNOCK URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report on the work of the Health Department, and the state of health and wellbeing of the inhabitants of the District for the year 1960.

Some general information on social conditions in the District is of importance in a report on Public Health, and forms a background against which the figures in the statistical sections may be viewed.

Employment—The level of employment in Cannock continued to be high. Cannock employment exchange covers an area wider than the Urban District, and includes the adjoining parts of Cannock Rural District, and Brindley Heath in Lichfield Rural District.

While this circumstance prevents the presentation of information applying exclusively to Cannock, it does not obscure the general picture of employment and industry therein.

The number of unemployed in the insured population was very low at 1%. Prosperity and wellbeing are indivisible, and such a figure should give general satisfaction.

The main industry is, as Members know, mining, yet fully half of the working population was employed in other occupations. An extension of diversification of employment can only be to the good of the Community, and it is to be hoped that future figures will show an increase in the trend away from the predominance of one industry.

The number of families under helpful surveillance, on account of difficulties in which they find themselves, showed an increase over the preceding year.

The list is, however, by no means static—some families can be removed from time to time, while, on the other hand, some new families have to be added. Some sixteen families have been assisted in this way, in our District in 1960.

The emergency powers contained in the National Assistance (Amendment) Act were employed on three occasions during the year.

(The 'normal' procedure of the original Act is undoubtedly too slow to meet the needs of cases brought to our attention).

The results have been gratifying, and in one case, rehabilitation with eventual return home has been possible.

Fifty-seven aged persons, disabled by illness were admitted to Ivy House Hospital, and to some other similar hospitals not too far away from Cannock.

In addition 30 aged persons, so enfeebled as to be unable to continue to live at home, were admitted to the hostel side of Ivy House.

The pressure for beds in Ivy House is, of course, greatly eased by the

Home Help Service (provided by the Staffs. County Council as Local Health Authority). Many households received regular home help during the year.

The old people were thereby enabled to continue to live in their own homes.

The provision of a free chiropody by the County Council (commenced 12th September, 1960) and the establishment of a physiotherapy clinic in Cannock by the Hospital Authorities, have also contributed to the welfare of many of our people.

The total population of the Urban District in 1960 was estimated at 43,440, as compared with 43,020 for the previous year.

There were 652 live births and 456 deaths, giving a natural increase of 196, which is substantially less than the figures for preceding years. With this small excess of births over deaths, 204 incoming persons would be required to make up the estimated population.

The live birth rate was 15.58, well below the National average of 17.1.

Eighteen infants died during the year, giving an Infant Mortality rate of 26.59 which, although above the National figure of 21.7, is quite good, and has been bettered on only two occasions in the past. The cause of infant deaths did not vary significantly from those recorded in previous years.

There was the hard core of congenital deformities, so gross as to be incompatible with life.

Prematurity accounted for most of the deaths in the first week (7 cases). Nowadays arrangements are made for premature infants to be born in hospitals specially staffed and equipped to cope with them, and many small babies are saved thereby.

However, some are born so prematurely that they are really far short of the development needed for a good chance of survival, and there is inevitably a proportion of loss.

Broncho pneumonia accounted for seven infant deaths.

This was the largest single group of deaths from one cause.

It is, of course, a complication of other infectious illnesses, as well as a disease which occurs on its own.

Other causes of infant death were represented by single cases only.

It is difficult to see, in the present state of medical knowledge, how these figures can be greatly improved upon.

There were also 17 still births, which, in proportion to the total births, is rather higher than the average for the country as a whole.

While some of these were no doubt inevitable, there is still scope for a wider use of the maternal care services which are provided.

It is by a fuller use of the facilities which are available that we may hope to improve these figures.

It is, however, one thing to provide the services, and another to induce every expectant mother to use them.

One maternal death occurred during the year. The pregnancy was early. The patient had not booked a midwife, had not attended any ante natal centre, and had not consulted her own doctor.

There were 456 deaths in Cannock in 1960, giving a death rate of 10.5, which when multiplied by the comparability factor gave a comparative rate of 12.3.

Diseases of the heart and vessels accounted for 255 of the total. Nearly all of these were subjects of advanced age.

Cancer deaths (79) were the next largest group. The commonest form of cancer was cancer of the lung, followed in order of frequency by cancer of stomach and cancer of breast. Other sites were individually considerably less frequent.

After cancer, bronchitis was the commonest cause of death. It is, of course, a major cause of disability and chronic illness extending over many years, causing great economic loss as well as ill health. The effects of atmospheric pollution in the causation of this disease are too well known to need repetition here.

There were seventeen deaths from accidents. Eight of these were road accidents. These deaths have an importance out of proportion to their number, for the subjects were mostly young and vigorous, (five were children), and the loss of expectation of life is thus much greater than that of the other groups.

Pneumonia was the most fatal of the infectious diseases. It commonly supervened as a terminal infection in cases of long established chronic bronchitis.

There were ten deaths from tuberculosis. These were mostly in long standing cases which originated before the advent of chemotherapy.

There were no cases of Diphtheria during the year. Although overshadowed by the special efforts directed against Poliomyelitis, Diphtheria immunisation continued steadily throughout the year. 4,473 persons were immunised. Nearly all were schoolchildren.

Some 6,000 persons of all ages up to 40 were immunised against Poliomyelitis. No cases of the disease occurred in the District.

Only 33 cases of dysentery were notified in 1960. This is quite a low figure, particularly in view of the thorough search amongst contacts of cases, which is made by the Department whenever a case appears.

28 sporadic cases of Scarlet Fever occurred, well distributed in time and place. 21 were isolated at home, and 7 were admitted to isolation hospital because of home conditions.

22 new cases of tuberculosis were notified. This figure shows a considerable increase on that for the previous year. A survey in Cannock carried out by Wolverhampton Mass

Miniature Radiography Unit found only one case among 971 persons examined.

Measles and whooping cough were apparently passing through an interepidemic year and relatively small numbers of these diseases occurred.

Analyses of the water supply to the town yielded completely satisfactory results.

Apart from some unforeseen contingency this may be expected to continue indefinitely. It is the well deserved reward of the careful application of scientific knowledge to water purification, and protection.

The success of the control of water pollution, and the elimination thereby of water borne disease, is a striking contrast to the widespread prevalence of disease resulting from atmospheric pollution, which, for various reasons, has not yet come under control.

Analysis of foodstuffs continued throughout the year.

It is quite an expensive undertaking, and the reports are seldom dramatic. Nevertheless, there can be no doubt that the continuance of this supervision does, in itself, ensure a high standard of purity and quality in food offered for sale. Food sampling has reached the status of a truly preventive service and as such, serves the Public well.

During the year the Council built 30 houses and 47 bungalows. 57 houses and 60 bungalows were erected privately.

The provision of new houses is an important Public Health measure, for the pace of slum clearance is directly dependent on the number of new dwellings provided.

I should like to take the opportunity afforded by the Annual Report, of recording the friendly co-operation of colleagues of the Health Department, and of the other Departments of the Council, and to thank, on behalf of the staff, the Members of the Council for their sustained interest which does so much to maintain enthusiasm and morale.

I am,

Public Health Department,
Church Street,
Cannock,
Staffs.

Your obedient servant,
R. WEBSTER
Medical Officer of Health

Tel.: Cannock 2096

SECTION A

Statistics and Social Conditions

Area of the District (excluding area covered by water)....acres	8,155
Population at 1931 Census.....	35,300
Population at 1951 Census.....	40,927
Registrar General's estimate of population to middle of year.....	43,440
Number of inhabited houses (accoridng to Rate Books) at end of the year.....	12,130
Rateable Value, 1st April, 1961.....	£448,010
Product of Penny Rate.....	£1,826

Unemployment figures for the year were as follows:—

Date	MALES		FEMALES		Total
	18 & over	Under 18	18 & over	Under 18	
14 3.60	174	8	132	3	317
13. 6.60	121	3	135	2	261
12. 9.60	126	9	142	10	287
12.12.60	142	7	100	3	252

LIVE BIRTHS

	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	341	311	652
Illegitimate	11	14	25
Total	352	425	677

Live Birth Rate per 1,000 population..... 15.58

Illegitimate Live Birth Rate per cent of total live births.... 3.7

Area Comparability Factor:—

The Area Comparability Factor provided by the Registrar General is 0.96. This Factor X Crude Live Birth Rate gives a standard Birth Rate for the District of 14.95

Live Birth Rate per 1,000 for England and Wales..... 17.1

LIVE BIRTHS

Year	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960
Legitimate ...	720	646	689	627	591	683	687	727	731	652
Illegitimate ...	33	22	21	16	23	21	25	30	22	25
Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated resident pop. ...	18.45	16.28	17.12	15.64	14.71	16.6	16.9	17.8	17.5	15.58

STILL BIRTHS

	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	6	11	17
Illegitimate	—	—	—
Total	6	11	17

Still Birth Rate per 1,000 live and still births..... 24.78

Still Birth Rate per 1,000 live and still births.....19.7
(England and Wales)

STILL BIRTHS

Year	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960
Legitimate ...	14	27	22	21	19	15	17	29	21	17
Illegitimate ...	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Still birth rate per 1,000 live and stil' births ...	19.5	38.8	31.3	31.6	30.01	20.8	23.3	36.9	29.2	24.78

DEATHS

Nett deaths allocated to the District after allowing for inward and outward transfers:—

Male	Female	Total
260	196	456
Crude Death Rate per 1,000 estimated population.....		10.5
The Area Comparability Factor provided by the Registrar General is in this case.....		1.18
This Factor X Crude Death Rate give a standard Death Rate of		12.3
Death Rate for England and Wales.....		11.5

MATERNAL MORTALITY

	Deaths	Rate per 1,000 live and still births	
		Cannock	Eng. & Wales
Maternal causes			
(excluding abortion)	—	0·00	0·31
others due to abortion	1	1·49	0·08
	1	1·49	0·39

INFANT MORTALITY

	Actual Deaths	Cannock Rate	Eng. & Wales Rate
Deaths under one year of age:—			
All infants per 1,000 live births. . .	18	26·59	21·7
Legitimate infants per 1,000			
legitimate live births.	18	27·6	—
Illegitimate infants per 1,000			
illegitimate live births.	—	—	—
Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 total live births)	8	11·8	—
Early Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live births)	6	8·8	—
Perinatal Mortality Rate (still-births and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and still births)	23	33·1	—

Cause of Death	Under 1 week	1—2 weeks	3rd week	4th week	Total 1—4 weeks Neo-natal mortality	4 weeks—3 months	3 months—6 months	6 months—9 months	9 months—12 months	Total Deaths Under 1 year of age
Prematurity	5	—	—	—	5	—	—	—	—	5
Birth Injury	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Asphyxia	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Respiratory Failure ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hydrocephalus	—	1	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	2
Meningoymyelocele ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Congenital Heart Disease	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Intestinal Obstruction	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Gastro Enteritis ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Broncho-pneumonia ..	—	1	—	—	1	—	4	2	—	7
Kidney Disease ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Totals	6	2	—	—	8	2	5	3	—	18

The estimated population, birth rate, infant mortality rate (I.M.R.) and Maternal Mortality Rate (M.M.R.) for the past ten years were as follows:—

Year	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960
Population	40,810	41,030	41,230	41,090	41,730	41,950	42,000	42,490	43,020	43,440
Birth Rate	18.81	16.93	17.77	16.15	15.16	17.13	17.35	18.49	18.01	16.17
I.M. Rate	35.93	43.41	43.66	38.88	30.9	21.3	23.8	31.7	35.98	26.59
M.M. Rate	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.54	1.32	1.49
Death Rate	11.93	11.67	10.74	10.29	10.32	10.4	10.28	11.15	10.1	10.5

Chief Causes of Death in Order of Importance

Cause of Death	Male	Female	Total	% of Total Deaths in 1960	% of Total Deaths in 1959
Heart Disease ...	130	70	200	43.9	38.3
Cancer ...	46	33	79	17.3	14.5
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	31	42	73	16.0	12.2
Bronchitis	20	5	25	5.4	6.4
Accidents	13	4	17	3.7	4.2
Pneumonia	7	9	16	3.5	2.8

CAUSES OF DEATH DURING 1960

	Male	Female
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory	3	—
2. Tuberculosis, other	—	—
3. Syphilitic Disease	2	1
4. Diphtheria	—	—
5. Whooping Cough	—	—
6. Meningococcal Infection	—	—
7. Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—
8. Measles	—	—
9. Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases ..	—	—
10. Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	6	2
11. Malignant Neoplasm, Lung & Bronchus	12	2
12. Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	1	9
13. Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus	—	2
14. Other Malignant & Lymphatic Neoplasms	26	18
15. Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	1	—
16. Diabetes	—	—
17. Vascular Lesions of Nervous System ..	31	42
18. Coronary Disease, Angina	48	25
19. Hypertension with Heart Disease	4	2
20. Other Heart Disease	52	39
21. Other Circulatory Disease	6	4
22. Influenza	1	2
23. Pneumonia	7	9
24. Bronchitis	20	5
25. Other Diseases of the respiratory System	6	1
26. Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	3	1
27. Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea	—	1
28. Nephritis and Nephrosis	1	2
29. Hyperplasia of Prostate	3	—
30. Pregnancy, Childbirth and Abortion	—	1
31. Congenital Malformation	3	5
32. Other Defined and Ill-Defined Diseases	10	17
33. Motor Vehicle Accidents	6	2
34. All other Accidents	7	2
35. Suicide	1	2
36. Homicide and Operations of War	—	—
	260	196

NATURAL INCREASE — EXCESS OF BIRTHS OVER DEATHS

	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1960
Births	768	695	733	664	633	719	729	786	753	677
Deaths	489	479	443	423	431	441	432	474	435	456
Natural Increase	279	216	290	241	202	278	297	312	318	221
Estimated Pop.	40,810	41,030	41,230	41,090	41,730	41,950	42,000	42,490	43,020	43,440

SECTION B

General Provision of Health Services Within the Cannock Urban District

LABORATORY FACILITIES

The Public Health Bacteriological and Chemical Laboratories have provided a comprehensive service throughout the year. They have been most helpful with advice and information, as well as in the work undertaken for us.

Results of Examinations were as follows:—

Swabs

Throat	Positive	Negative	Total
For General Practitioners	—	26	26
For Hospitals	—	—	—

Nose

For General Practitioners	—	3	3
For Hospitals	—	—	—
Sputa for Tuberculosis	30	507	537

Other Specimens:—

Urine	—
Faeces	452
Blood	—
Others	10

In addition many examinations of water, milk, food stuffs, sewage effluents were reported on by these Laboratories during the year.

HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATION AND PERSONAL HEALTH

No important changes occurred in these services as compared with previous years.

SECTION C

Infectious Diseases

INCIDENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES (Notifications)

	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960
Scarlet Fever	67	20	27	23	25	28	28
Measles	114	651	6	580	479	419	117
Whooping Cough	14	92	154	40	19	152	30
Diphtheria	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis							
Paralytic	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Non-Paralytic	7	2	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Polio Encephalitis ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia	22	22	22	20	13	23	8
Erysipelas	—	10	15	7	6	7	6
Meningococcal Infection ..	—	2	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	517	30	19	18	51	179	33
Enteric Fevers	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Food Poisoning	—	5	4	14	5	17	6
Puerperal Pyrexia	4	10	7	1	2	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ..	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
Gastro Enteritis	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Paratyphoid Fevers	—	—	—	—	—	3	—

ANALYSIS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES BY AGE GROUPS

	Scarlet Fever	Measles	Whooping Cough	D'theria	Polio Paralytic	Polio non- Paralytic
Under 1 year	—	3	2	—	—	—
1—2	1	19	11	—	—	—
3—4	8	36	8	—	—	—
5—9	17	53	9	—	—	—
10—14	2	2	—	—	—	—
15—24	—	1	—	—	—	—
25 & over	—	—	—	—	—	—
Age Unknown	—	3	—	—	—	—

Age Group	Pneumonia	Meningococcal Infection	Dysentery	Enteric Fever	Food Poisoning	Puerperal Pyrexia	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Paratyphoid Fevers
Under 5 years	4	—	15	—	1	—	—	—
5—14	—	—	13	—	4	—	—	—
15—44	1	—	5	—	1	—	—	—
45—64	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 & over ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Age unknown	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

TUBERCULOSIS

Age Groups		NEW CASES				Total	DEATHS				Total
		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory			Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		
		M	F	M	F		M	F	M	F	
0—1	..	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
1—5	..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—15	..	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
15—25	..	—	4	1	—	5	—	1	—	—	1
25—35	..	2	2	—	—	4	1	—	—	—	1
35—45	..	3	1	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—
45—55	..	3	1	—	1	5	4	—	—	—	4
55—65	..	1	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	1
65 & over		—	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	—	3
Age unknown		—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Total	..	10	8	2	2	22	8	2	—	—	10

The number of new cases and the number of deaths for the past ten years were as follows:—

	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960
New Cases										
Pulmonary	36	39	44	37	21	25	7	27	13	18
Non-P'monary	7	4	4	6	2	1	2	1	1	4
Total	43	43	48	43	23	26	9	28	14	22
Deaths										
Pulmonary	12	8	11	9	2	5	4	4	4	10
Non-P'monary	3	3	1	2	—	1	—	—	—	—
Total	15	11	12	11	2	6	4	4	4	10

Notices of admission to Institutions were as follows:—

Groundslow Sanatorium	3
Cheshire Joint Sanatorium	1
Goscote Sanatorium	2
St. Michael's Hospital	1
The Limes, Himley	3

DEATHS from Tuberculosis in England and Wales as a whole as compared with Cannock.

	Deaths	Rate per million
England and Wales	3,426	75
Cannock	10	230

TUBERCULOSIS REGISTER. The number of Tuberculosis cases on the Register on 1st January, 1960 was 291

The Distribution was as follows:—

	Bridgtown	Cannock	Chadsmoor	Heath Hayes and Wimblebury	Hazel Slade Cannock Wood Rawsley	Hednesford
Pulmonary	22	105	30	17	11	78
Non-Pulmonary ..	1	15	3	2	1	6
Total	23	120	33	19	12	84

Additions to Register.

PULMONARY

No. of New Notifications	13
No. of Transfers IN	9
No. Restored to Register	—
Total	22

Deletions from Register.

PULMONARY

No. Died	10
No. Recovered	58
No. of Transfers OUT	23
Total	91

Additions to Register.**NON-PULMONARY**

No. of New Notifications	—
No. of Transfers IN	—
No. Restored to Register	—
Total	—

Deletions from Register.**NON-PULMONARY**

No. Died	—
No. Recovered	14
No. of Transfers OUT	1
Total	15

CANCERS

There were 79 deaths from Cancer, 16 more than in the previous year. The following table shows the trend over the last 10 years.

Year	: 1951:	1952:	1953:	1954:	1955:	1956:	1957:	1958:	1959 :	1960
Deaths	: 54:	77:	77:	67:	70:	88:	66:	74:	63 :	79
Population	: 40,810:	41,030:	41,230:	41,090:	41,730:	41,950:	42,000:	42,490:	43,020 :	43,440
Rate per 1,000:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
o' the Pop.	: 1.32:	1.87:	1.86:	1.63:	1.67:	2.09:	1.57:	1.74:	1.46 :	1.8

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE
CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

To the Chairman and Members of the Cannock Urban District
Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I submit the Annual Report on the work of the Public Health Department during the year 1960.

The start of the year saw the continued absence of Mr. J. Ball, Chief Public Health Inspector, through illness. An illness, which on 8th June brought the news of his tragic and untimely death—a shock to all who knew him. Having known and worked with Mr. Ball for twenty-two years I have no hesitation in saying he was liked and respected by all.

Staff shortage was a severe handicap to the Department. In spite of repeated advertisements for an Additional Public Health Inspector no applications were forthcoming. The foresight of the Council in 1957 in appointing a pupil is now to be seen. Mr. Medycott's final year of training commenced in September.

Through sheer necessity some duties had to be neglected, but as will be seen from the report meat inspection has been given priority; again all animals having been inspected.

I would take this opportunity of expressing my thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Council for their support and co-operation in the working of the Department.

My thanks are also due to Dr. Webster, Medical Officer of Health, the Clerk, and all other Chief Officers for their help and especially to all the members of the staff of the Public Health Department.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

R. HEATH,

Chief Public Health Inspector

Public Health Department,
Church Street,
Cannock.

Tel.: Cannock 2231 Ext. 35

Food and Drugs Act, 1955

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD AND FOOD PREMISES

FOOD HYGIENE

It is regretted that staff difficulties limited the number of visits which were made to the various 810 food premises in 1960. The work is of great importance, and regular and frequent visits are never time wasted, when it is realised that a small incident in a food preparation room could start a problem which could spread far and wide.

Personal hygiene, the condition of the premises and equipment and methods employed are considered and whenever possible swabs from utensils and samples of washing or rinsing waters are taken for bacteriological examination. Table 1 sets out the details of these tests.

Number and Type of Food Premises

Bakehouses	10
Butchers' Shops	39
Cafes and Snack Bars	11
Colliery Canteens	9
Restaurants	3
Dairies	3
Egg Packing Stations	1
Factory Canteens	18
Fish retailers and greengrocers	45
Fried fish shops	21
Ice-cream manufacturers	2
Ice-cream retailers	205
Meat Stalls	5
Retail Shops	336
School canteens and kitchens	28
Slaughterhouses	10
Wholesale food premises	8
Licenced premises	56

Chemical Examination of Food

During the year 134 samples of Food and Drugs were submitted to the Public Analyst and results of the analyses are set out in Table 2. Of the 134 samples taken only 2 or 1.5% proved unsatisfactory.

The average composition of all samples of milk was—Fat 3.81%, Solids—not-fat 8.77%.

TABLE 1

HYGIENE TESTS 1960

Samples taken from	Number taken	Number Satisfactory	Number Unsatisfactory	Percentage Satisfactory	Percentage Unsatisfactory	Colony Count		Coliform Test	
						Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
Hospital Kitchen	10	10	—	100.0	—	10	—	10	—
Licensed Premises	36	35	1	97.22	2.77	35	1	35	1
Cafes	42	40	2	95.24	4.76	40	2	40	2
Restaurants	25	24	1	96.00	4.00	24	1	24	1
Canteens	117	98	19	83.76	16.24	98	19	98	19
TOTALS	230	207	23	90.00	10.00	207	23	207	23

TABLE 2
FOOD & DRUGS SAMPLES, 1960

SAMPLE	NUMBER EXAMINED	NUMBER ADULTERATED OR BELOW STANDARD			
		F'mal	Infmal	F'mal	Infmal
Baking Powder	—	1	—	—	—
Beer	—	3	—	—	—
Bread	—	1	—	—	1
Butter	—	5	—	—	—
Coffee and Chicory	—	6	—	—	—
Cocoa	—	1	—	—	—
Cream	—	1	—	—	—
Cream Cakes	—	1	—	—	—
Custard Powder	—	1	—	—	—
Desiccated Coconut	—	1	—	—	—
Flour	—	1	—	—	—
Ground Spice	—	1	—	—	—
Ground Almonds	—	1	—	—	—
Horseradish Relish	—	1	—	—	—
Ice-cream	—	14	—	—	—
Instant Bread Sauce	—	1	—	—	—
Lemonade Crystals	—	1	—	—	—
Meringue Filling	—	1	—	—	—
Milk, tinned	—	1	—	—	—
Milk	—	20	—	—	—
Milk, Pasteurised	—	12	—	—	—
Milk, T.T. Pasteurised	—	7	—	—	—
Milk, Tuberculin Tested	1	10	—	—	1
Milk, Sterilised	—	9	—	—	—
Milk, Channel Island (all grades) ..	—	11	—	—	—
Mince meat	—	2	—	—	—
Mixed Peel	—	3	—	—	—
Mustard	—	1	—	—	—
Parsley Sauce	—	1	—	—	—
Pickling Spice	—	1	—	—	—
Pilchards & Tomato Fish Paste ..	—	1	—	—	—
Rum Sauce	—	1	—	—	—
Semolina	—	1	—	—	—
Sponge Mixture	—	1	—	—	—
Suet	—	1	—	—	—
Sugar	—	1	—	—	—
Shredded Suet	—	4	—	—	—
Strawberry Jam	—	1	—	—	—
Tea	—	1	—	—	—
Tea Cake Mix	—	1	—	—	—
TOTALS	1	133	—	—	2

TABLE 3
DETAILS OF UNSATISFACTORY SAMPLES

Sample No.	Article	Nature of Contravention	Observations
977	Bread	Discolouration due to presence of Mineral oil and iron	Cautionary warning given.
985	T.T. Milk	4.0% deficient of fat	Formal sample taken which proved satisfactory

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF FOOD—MILK

Since 1st October, 1954 the Urban Area has been included in an Area whereby all milk retailed must be under a Special Designation, that is, briefly, tuberculin tested or heat treated (pasteurised or sterilized). Although there is a dairy in the district at which pasteurisation takes place the majority of milk retailed in the area comes from dairies outside the Urban District.

A total of 164 samples were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory—161 for bacteriological examination and 3 for biological tests for tubercle bacilli—these latter 3 being negative. Of the bacteriological samples, four were declared 'void' due to the atmospheric shade temperature during the holding time being above the permitted maximum; four 'farm bottled' tuberculin tested milks failed the Methylene Blue Test and in these cases the appropriate authority was notified. The remaining 153 passed the statutory tests.

Licences to use special designations were issued as follows:—

Dealers Licences:—

Tuberculin Tested	4
Pasteurised	16
Sterilized	45

Supplementary Licences:—

Tuberculin Tested	3
Pasteurised	3
Sterilized	2
Pasteuriser's Licence ..	1

ICE CREAM

Ice-cream (Heat Treatment, Etc.) Regulations, 1959

There are two manufacturers of Ice-cream in the area; one carries out the heat treatment procedure, whilst the other uses the 'cold mix' method. In the latter method a complete cold mix is used which is reconstituted with drinking water and to which nothing may be added other than certain flavourings, fruits, etc.

In addition, there are 184 other premises registered for the 'sale only' of Ice-cream. These are mainly retail shops selling pre-packed ice-cream, almost the whole of which is manufactured outside the Urban area.

59 samples were examined by the Public Health Laboratory Service. 52 were Grade I, 6 Grade II and 1 Grade III.

MISCELLANEOUS FOODS

In the course of frequent visits to an Egg Packing Station in this area 15 samples of Liquid Egg were obtained; no pathogenic organisms were isolated.

INSPECTION OF MEAT AND OTHER FOODS

Slaughterhouses

On 17th June the Council, under the provision of the Slaughterhouses Act, 1958 and in accordance with the requirements of the Slaughterhouses (Reports) Direction 1959, submitted a report to the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food on (a) the existing and probable future requirements of the district for slaughterhouse facilities, having regard to the needs both of persons requiring the use of such facilities and of other persons; and, (b) the slaughterhouse facilities which were, or were likely to become available to meet the requirements.

This report followed meetings with representatives of the local Butchers' Association and slaughterhouse licencees. Eight other organisations and neighbouring local authorities were also consulted.

Briefly, the report was to the effect that of the ten slaughterhouses eight could be expected to comply with the construction regulations and that these, together with wholesalers' premises in nearby towns, would be able to provide adequate facilities for the needs of the district.

The Council recommended the Minister to fix the 1st March, 1961 as the date by which the construction regulations should apply to all slaughterhouses in the district.

At the end of the year the indications were that no more than 6 premises would be brought up to standard.

Meat Inspection

The ideal is for post-mortem inspection to take place at the time of slaughter, unfortunately, due to the number of premises and hours

of slaughter, this has not always been possible but I am glad to say, with the co-operation of the butchers, it is again possible to report that all animals, intended for human consumption and slaughtered in the area, have been inspected.

Due to alterations in progress at some slaughterhouses and others closing down, the number of animals slaughtered shows a decrease from 1959; so does the percentage of cattle affected with tuberculosis. This in 1960 was 1.46% compared with a figure of 11% for 1954 and for pigs 1.92% as against 31.2% six years ago. There is little doubt that the plan of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food to eradicate bovine tuberculosis is now showing dividends.

TABLE 4
DETAILS OF ANIMALS INSPECTED

	Cattle except Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep	Pigs
No. of animals slaughtered	550	15	14	2,841	2345
No. of animals inspected	550	15	14	2,841	2345
ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS AND CYSTICERCI—					
Whole carcasses condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	111	5	1	23	85
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tubercu- losis or Cysticerici	20.18%	33.33%	7.14%	0.87%	3.81%
TUBERCULOSIS ONLY--					
Whole carcasses condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	8	Nil	Nil	Nil	45
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	1.46%	Nil	Nil	Nil	1.92%
CYSTICERCOSIS—					
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Generalised and totally condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

(Total number of carcasses examined 5,767)

TABLE 5 DISEASED MEAT AND OFFALS

	Tons	Cwts.	Qrs.	lbs
All Diseases Except Tuberculosis: ..				
Carcase Meat		2	0	21
Offals		12	2	21
Tuberculosis Only:				
Carcase Meat		5	3	19
Offals		2	1	3
Cysticercosis only:				
Carcase Meat		—	—	—
Offals		—	—	—

TABLE 6 AFFECTED CARCASE PARTS

	Cattle	Cows	Calves	Sheep	Pigs
Carcases	—	—	—	—	—
Part Carcases	5	—	1	—	6
Diaphragms	1	—	—	—	—
Heads	8	1	—	—	36
Hearts	—	—	—	—	35
Kidneys	—	—	—	—	—
Lungs	13	—	—	1	71
Livers	101	4	—	21	7
Mesenteries	3	—	—	—	5
Intestines	4	—	—	—	5
Stomachs	1	—	—	—	—
Spleens	1	—	—	—	—
Udders	—	—	—	—	—
Uteri	—	—	—	—	—

TABLE 7 INCIDENCE OF DISEASE IN MEAT (Weight in lbs.)

	Other	Cows	Calves	Sheep	Pigs
Abcesses	152	30	—	2	41
Actinomycosis	70	—	—	—	—
Bacterial Necrosis	26	—	—	—	—
Bruising	30	—	10	—	—
Contamination	—	—	—	5	—
Congestion	—	—	—	—	103
Cysts	15	—	—	—	—
Fascioliasis	853	20	—	42	—
Hepatitis	5	—	—	—	29
Injury (septic)	—	—	—	5	—
Pericarditis	—	—	—	—	97
Peritonitis	—	—	—	—	16
Pleurisy	15	—	—	—	9
Pneumonia	—	—	—	—	65
Rheumatism	—	—	—	—	6
Tuberculosis	434	—	—	—	484
Urticaria	—	—	—	—	20

UNWHOLESOME FOOD CONDEMNED

Food found to be unfit for human consumption is set out in the following table. All was voluntarily surrendered to the Public Health Inspectors at the time of inspection.

In all cases surrender notes were obtained and 386 condemnation certificates were issued.

Disposal of Condemned Food

Diseased meat is destroyed by fire or suitably stained and removed for conversion into fertilizers. Controlled tipping is the means of disposing of refuse in this district, and unwholesome food is taken to tips and safely disposed of under the supervision of the department.

TABLE 8
FOOD CONDEMNED

Type of Food	Tons	Cwts.	Qrs.	lbs.	ozs.
Meat and Offals	1	3	0	8	0
Meat, tinned	—	11	3	18	1½
Vegetables, tinned	—	—	2	18	14
Fish, tinned	—	—	1	13	5
Tomatoes, tinned	—	—	2	10	8
Fruit, tinned	—	3	3	23	12½
Milk, tinned	—	—	2	7	12½
Soup, tinned	—	—	1	7	1½
Cheese	—	—	—	17	8
Cereals	—	—	—	8	6
Pork Sausage	—	—	—	10	0
Sugar	—	—	—	4	0
Fish Paste	—	—	—	12	12
Margarine	—	—	—	3	8
Tapioca	—	—	—	7	0
Butter	—	—	—	8	0
Jam	—	—	2	20	10
Miscellaneous	—	1	0	3	14½
Total	2	3	3	7	1½

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT, 1958

One new application to slaughter or stun animals in a slaughter-house was received 43 renewals of existing licences were granted.

The slaughtermen continue to be informed of the necessity of obtaining a certificate required under the Firearms Act, 1937. A Captive Bolt Pistol for the use of licenced slaughtermen in cases of emergency is always available in the department.

WATER

The Urban Districts water supply is obtained from the South Staffs. Waterworks Company and has continued to be satisfactory in both quality and quantity.

There are no stand-pipes in the area—every house having a piped supply direct to the dwelling. The water itself is not liable to have plumbo-solvent action.

Samples from taps at various premises have been taken from time to time and submitted for bacteriological and chemical examination—in all instances with acceptable reports.

PREMISES AND OCCUPATIONS CONTROLLED BY BYELAWS OR REGULATIONS

Dairies and Milk Distributors	85
Purveyors of milk from other districts selling milk in this area	5
Bakehouses	10
Slaughterhouses	10
Butchers' Shops	39
Meat Stalls	5
Mortuaries	1
Factories	123
Pet Animals shops	9
Rag Flock Premises	4

HOUSING ACTS

Housing work carried out under the Public Health Acts and Housing Acts is set out on the following pages.

HOUSING STATISTICS

1. Inspection of Dwellinghouses during the year.	
(1) (a) Total number of dwellinghouses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	207
(b) Number of inspection made for that purpose....	732
(2) (a) Number of dwellinghouses (included under sub-heading 1 above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	46
(b) Number of inspections made for that purpose..	139
(3) Number of dwellinghouses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	23
(4) Number of dwellinghouses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading) found to be not in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	184
2 Remedy of Defects during the year without service of Formal Notice.	
Number of defective dwellinghouses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the local authority or their officers	75
3 Action under Statutory Powers during the year.	
(a) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 12 of the Housing Act, 1957:—	
(1) Number of dwellinghouse in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	0
(2) Number of dwellinghouses which were re-fit after service of formal notice:—	
(a) by Owners	0
(b) by Local Authority in default of Owners	0
(b) Proceedings under Public Health Act:—	
(1) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	82
(2) Number of dwellinghouses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:—	
(a) by Owners	49
(b) by Local Authority in default of Owners	0

(c) Proceedings under Section 16, 17 and 23 of the Housing Act, 1957:—	
(1) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which demolition orders were made	4
(2) Number of dwellinghouses demolished in pursuance of demolition orders	10
(d) Proceedings under Section 18 and 27 of the Housing Act, 1957:—	
(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which closing orders were made	0
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which closing orders were determined the tenement or room having been rendered fit	1
(e) Proceedings under Section 17 of the Housing Act, 1957:—	
Number of dwellings closed under sub-section (1)	1

UNFIT HOUSES

Number demolished:—

Individual Unfits	18
Clearance Orders	46
Redevelopment Area	19

Clearance Areas Represented

St. Chad's Ward:

108, 110, 112, 114, 116 John Street, Chadsmoor.
401, 403, 405, 407, 409, 411 Huntington Terrace Road, Chadsmoor.
333 and 333A Cannock Road, Chadsmoor.

Clearance and Compulsory Purchase Orders made, or Property Purchased by Agreement

St. Aidan's Ward:

382, 384, 386 Cemetery Road. Cannock. (Agreement).

St. Chad's Ward:

38, 40, 42, 44, 46 Burgoyne Street, Hightown. (Agreement).
108, 110, 112, 114, 116 John Street, Chadsmoor. (Clearance).
401, 403, 405, 407, 409 Huntington Terrace Road, Chadsmoor.
(Clearance).
333 and 333A Cannock Road, Chadsmoor. (Clearance).

St. Mark's Ward:

241 and 243 Station Road, Hednesford. (Agreement).

Houses Represented for Demolition or Closing Orders

St. Luke's Ward:

322 Old Hednesford Road, Cannock. (Demolition).

St. Aidan's Ward:

19A Pye Green Road, Cannock. (Demolition).

101 Stafford Road, Cannock. (Cert. Unfit).

41 Pye Green Road, Cannock. (Cert. Unfit).

St. Chad's Ward:

2 John Street, Chadsmoor. (Demolition).

St. Mark's Ward:

40A and 42 Heath Street, Hednesford. (Closing).

5, 7, 9 Heath Street, Hednesford. (Cert. Unfit).

St. John's Ward:

Cross Keys Crossing House, Hill Street, Hednesford. (Demolition).

St. Peter's Ward:

'New Hayes,' Holly Hill Road, Cannock Wood. (Demolition).

Hayfield Cottage, Slang Lane, Cannock Wood. (Demolition).

35 Church Hill, Hednesford. (Closing).

Demolition Orders Made

St. Luke's Ward:

322 Old Hednesford Road, Cannock.

St. Chad's Ward:

2 John Street, Chadsmoor

St. John's Ward:

Cross Keys Crossing House, Hill Street, Hednesford.

St. Peter's Ward:

'New Hayes,' Holly Hill Road, Cannock Wood.

Buildings Closed

St. Peter's Ward:

35 Church Hill, Hednesford.

Houses Demolished

St. Paul's Ward:

2 and 4 York Road, Rumer Hill. (Clearance).

St. Luke's Ward:

32, 34, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44 Walhouse Street, Cannock. (Clearance).

1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 13, 15, 17, 19 Railway Street, Cannock. (Clearance).

St. Aidan's Ward:

502, 504, 506, 508, 510, 512 Stafford Road, Cannock. (Clearance).

120 Stafford Road, Cannock. (Demolition).
 401 Cemetery Road, Cannock. (Cert. Unfit).
 41 Pye Green Road, Cannock. (Cert. Unfit).

St. Chad's Ward:

38, 40, 42, 44, 46 Burgoyne Street, Hightown. (Clearance).
 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14 Moss Street, Chadsmoor. (Demolition).

St. Mark's Ward:

242, 244 Green Heath Road, Hednesford. (Clearance).
 312, 314, 316, 318, 318B, 318C Green Heath Road, Hednesford
 (Clearance).
 241, 243 Station Road, Hednesford. (Clearance).
 68 and 70 off Mount Street, Hednesford. (Cert. Unfit).
 88 and 90 Hednesford Road, Pye Green. (Cert. Unfit).

St. John's Ward:

25 Arthur Street, Wimblebury. (Redevelopment).
 61, 62 Arthur Street, Wimblebury. (Redevelopment).
 32, 48, 72, 74, 76, 78, 80, 82 John Street, Wimblebury.
 (Redevelopment).
 42, 44, 46, 48 Glover Street, Wimblebury. (Redevelopment).
 33, 35, 37, 41 Piggott Street, Wimblebury. (Redevelopment).
 132, 132A, 134, 136, 138, 140 Cannock Road, Heath Hayes.
 (Clearance).

St. Peter's Ward:

397 Littleworth Road, Hednesford. (Closing).
 1 Littleworth Road, Hednesford. (Voluntary).
 3 Littleworth Road, Hednesford. (Demolition).
 'New Hayes,' Holly Hill Road, Cannock Wood. (Demolition).

Houses Erected

Private Enterprise

117

(60 Bungalows, 57 Houses)

Local Authority

77

(47 Bungalows, 30 Houses)

REPAIRS TO HOUSES

The following is a list of repairs carried out to houses during the year.

Roofs repaired	25
Chimneys repaired	8
Spouting repaired	10
Houses repointed, roughcast or cemented	14
Walls and ceilings repaired	29
New ceilings	—
New quarry and concrete floors	1
Quarry, brick and concrete floors repaired	6
New wood floors	7
New skirting boards or skirting boards repaired	1

New fascia boards	—
Flashings and weatherings repaired	—
Wood floors repaired	4
New firegrates fitted or firegrates repaired	18
New windows and windows repaired	16
New sashcords, catches, fasteners etc.	12
New doors fitted and doors repaired	14
New sinks and sinks repaired	9
Coppers repaired	2
Burst pipes repaired	18
Yard paved and paving repaired	1

Nuisances and other Matters Dealt With

Foul drains, water closets, cesspools, sinks, urinals	50
Accumulations of manure and other offensive matter	5
Defective water closets and drains	42
Dirty dwellinghouses	4
Dwellinghouses needing repair	115
Dwellinghouses overcrowded	15
Poultry so kept as to be a nuisance	1

Nuisances Abated and Improvements Carried Out

Water Closets put in order	2
New water closet pans	8
New water closet seats	1
New water closet flushing cisterns	2
Water closet flushing cisterns repaired	5
Choked water closets opened	6
Choked drains opened	24
Drains repaired	—
Drain ventilating shafts repaired	1
New dutbins substituted for worn out dustbins (Council scheme)	955
New dustbins substituted for worn out dustbins (Owners)	11
New drain inspection chambers constructed	—
New drain inspection chamber covers provided	1
New sanitary pails provided	—
New water closets provided	—
New bathrooms provided	—

Overcrowded Dwellinghouses

New cases found	1
Abated during year	—
Existing at end of year	15

COMPLAINTS RECEIVED

The number of complaints received by the Department in 1960 was 216, considerably less than in the previous year.

NOTICES SERVED

Informal	186
Statutory, Public Health Act, 1936, Section 45	18
Statutory, Public Health Act, 1936, Section 93	71

RESULTS OF NOTICES SERVED

Nuisances abated	162
Notices outstanding	24

RENT ACT, 1957

The following figures were submitted to the Ministry relating to applications for Certificates of Disrepair in 1960.

(1) Number of applications for certificates	13
(2) Number of decisions not to issue certificates	—
(3) Number of decisions to issue certificates	13
(a) in respect of some but not all defects	13
(b) in respect of all defects	—
(4) Number of undertakings given by landlords under paragraph 5 of the First Schedule	—
(5) Number of undertakings refused by Local Authority under proviso to paragraph 5 of the First Schedule ..	—
(6) Number of certificates issued	17

Applications for Cancellation of Certificates

(7) Applications by landlords to Local Authority for Cancellation of Certificates	2
(8) Objections by tenants to cancellation of certificates ..	3
(9) Decisions by Local Authority to cancel in spite of tenants objections	—
(10) Certificates cancelled by Local Authority	1

Improvement Grants

Under the Improvement Grants Scheme the Council approved 60 applications for Standard Grants and 3 for Discretionary Grants.

This scheme has helped a few people, in the main owner-occupiers, to obtain modern amenities, e.g. bathroom, hot water supply, internal sanitary accommodation, but in the main the majority of people living in the older houses in the area are without these facilities, which can surely now be classified as 'necessities.'

Sewerage and Sewage Disposal

Almost the whole of the district is on the water carriage system. Sewerage schemes over the last few years have eliminated a large number of cesspools and pail closets in the rural areas and further proposed extensions of the foul sewers will reduce the number even more.

The cesspools which still exist are, in the main, at isolated properties. Mechanical emptying is carried out by the Council's Cleansing Department at approximately 14 day intervals.

Mr. E. L. Lomax the Council's Engineer and Surveyor has provided the following information.

The foul sewerage system within the district is partly on the combined method and partly on the separate method, recent development has been on the separate method as far as possible.

The great majority of the district's sewage, approximately two million gallons per day dry weather flow, is treated at the Main Sewage Disposal Works located on Longford Road, Cannock. A small amount, approximately 25,000 gallons per day dry weather flow is treated at the Cannock Wood Sewage Works. Both works utilise bacterial filter beds, and recirculation is practised at the Main Sewage Works. An adjunct to the Main Sewage Works is the Grass Plot Effluent Treatment System which yields a final effluent of exceptionally good quality. The only major scheme anticipated at the Main Sewage Works is a sludge disposal plant upon which work is expected to commence during 1961.

The foul sewerage system and storm water drainage may be considered adequate throughout the District and trouble is only experienced when mining subsidence alters the water tables or damages the sewers.

DUSTBINS

A scheme under the Public Health Act is carried out for the provision and maintenance of dustbins. This scheme commenced in 1940 and has always been very popular and of immense value. An annual charge of 5/-, recoverable with the General Rate, is made for each dustbin. By the end of 1960, 16,081 had been supplied including 955 in the last year, of which 492 were renewals.

DISINFESTATION

Houses of selected applicants for Council houses were visited prior to rehousing by this council to ascertain whether disinfestation was necessary. 127 visits were made.

Minor infestations of bugs, fleas, cockroaches, ants, etc., were dealt with by means of insecticidal liquids or other fumigation.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The following cases of infectious disease or suspected cases were investigated during the year by the Public Health Inspectors.

Scarlet Fever	28
Sonrei Dysentery	69
Food Poisoning	7
	104

Prevention of Damage By Pests Act, 1949

RODENT CONTROL

The work of Rodent Control was continued throughout the year by the Rodent Operator under the supervision of the Public Health Inspectors. A free service is provided for private houses.

Complaints were received from 197 premises and after investigations appropriate action taken. Further infestations were discovered during routine surveys and suitably dealt with.

The baiting and poisoning of the sewers in this district continued, together with regular treatment of tips and like places as necessary.

1. Surface Disinfestation

The first table shows the properties inspected as a result of (1) notification; (2) survey; and (3) visits to premises primarily for some other purpose.

Local Authority	Type of Property			Total
	Dwelling houses	Agricultural	All other (inc. business premises)	
14	309	—	54	377

The second table indicates the properties found to be infested with rats or mice and subsequently treated. All were classed as minor infestations.

Local Authority	Type of Property			Total
	Dwelling houses	Agricultural	All other (inc. business premises)	
9	206	—	48	263

2. Treatment of Sewers

1st Treatment—29th January to 2nd February, 1960

No. of manholes in foul and connected systems	2,000 (approx.)
No. of manholes baited	33
No. of manholes showing pre-bait take	10
Scheme of baiting used	1st, 4th and 8th days
Bait and Poison used	Bread mash and Arsenic

2nd Treatment—13th June to 17th June, 1960

No. of manholes in foul and connected system	2,000 (approx.)
No. of manholes baited	121
No. of manholes showing pre-bait take	13
Scheme of baiting used	1st, 4th and 8th days
Bait and Poison used	Sausage Rusks and Zinc Phosphide

SHOPS, ACT, 1950

The Council is the authority responsible for the enforcement of this Act in the Urban Area. As far as possible visits under this Act are combined with those made under other Acts or Regulations.

Observations to ensure that the requirements of the Act relating to closing hours and weekly half holiday have been made regularly and as will be seen from the following table, contraventions were found. In the majority of cases this resulted in warning letters being sent by the Clerk of the Council to the offenders warning them that in the event of any further contravention summary proceedings would be instituted.

The Council took proceedings against five car sales firms in respect of (1) Sunday Trading, and (2) failing to exhibit notices when open on a Sunday. At the Hearing at Cannock Magistrates Court, Counsel representing four of the firms entered pleas of guilty to one of the summonses brought against each of the defendants, relating to the opening of premises for the sale of cars on Sundays and Counsel representing the Council agreed to the alternative summonses being withdrawn. The Magistrates accepted the pleas and also found the fifth firm guilty of a similar offence.

Each defendant was fined £5 and ordered to pay Advocate's fees of £5 5s. each.

Requirements	Contraventions	Informal notices served
Part 1		
Early Closing Days	4	4
General Closing Hours	Nil	Nil
Part 2		
Statutory half-holiday & meal times	Nil	Nil
Hours of employment of young persons	Nil	Nil
Arrangements for health and comfort of Shop Workers ..	2	2
Part 4		
Sunday Trading	14	14

HEATING APPLIANCES (FIREGUARDS) ACT, 1952

This Act, together with Regulations made in 1953, requires fire-guards to be fitted to gas fires, electric fires and oil heaters which are so designed that they are suitable for use in residential premises and are of such a type that, without a guard there is a likelihood of injury by burning.

Twenty-eight appliances in stock at local shops, were inspected and tested in the maner prescribed by the Regulations—all were satisfactory.

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS

The Council's two residential caravan sites, providing standings for 44 dwellings have been fully occupied throughout this year, with always a waiting list of applicants. A site for 32 caravans is situated at Cannock and one for 12 at Pvc Green. At these sites, all dwellings have their own water closet; electricity is laid on, individual taps, sinks are provided and drainage is to the sewer.

Two private sites are licenced, providing standings for a further 33 caravans; at these sites the amenities available are similar to those on the Council's own sites.

PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951

Nine licences were granted for the keeping of Pet Shops.

All licences were granted subject to conditions which ensure the objects of the Act being observed.

This Act applies to all premises, including private houses, where the sellings of animals as pets is carried on as a business.

THE GAME ACT, 1831

Two licences were granted to enable shopkeepers to retail game.

INVESTIGATION OF ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

Work in connection with the recording of atmospheric pollution has continued throughout the year. Two Deposit Gauges, six Lead Peroxide instruments and one combined Smoke Filter and Volumetric Sulphur Dioxide Apparatus have been in use.

Every effort was made to secure the abatement or reduction of smoke, and similar emissions. Observations of chimneys and spoil banks were made.

TABLE DEPOSIT GAUGES—RECORD OF DEPOSITS

Month	Deposit in tons per Square Mile per month	
	Bridgtown	Littleworth
January	14.72	15.64
February	12.24	8.03
March	16.44	14.97
April	10.83	12.72
May	21.97	21.59
June	15.95	17.16
July	8.94	11.48
August	16.02	22.65
September	13.00	14.17
October	13.10	14.67
November	15.13	Out of Order
December	9.15	13.11
Totals	167.49	166.19
Monthly average, 1960	13.96	13.85
Monthly Average, 1959	15.54	15.99

TABLE 10

**LEAD PEROXIDE GAUGES—RECORD OF SULPHUR
POLLUTION**

Weight of Sulphur Trioxide collected in milligrammes per 100 sq. centimetres per day.

Month	Bridgtown	Cannock	Pye Green	Hednesford	Wimblebury	Rumer Hill
January	2.00	8.67	6.38	2.04	2.23	2.72
February	1.95	2.28	2.16	1.90	2.47	2.80
March	2.44	1.99	1.94	1.30	2.08	2.32
April	1.59	1.95	1.10	1.15	1.60	2.12
May	1.41	1.61	1.01	0.84	1.70	1.56
June	1.12	1.07	0.70	0.62	1.19	1.69
July	0.91	0.56	0.37	0.46	0.89	1.02
August	0.75	0.62	2.70	0.48	0.79	1.12
September	0.95	0.99	0.59	0.67	1.13	1.02
October	1.62	1.99	5.90	1.25	1.90	1.86
November	2.00	2.45	1.71	1.63	2.21	2.82
December	2.70	3.36	1.96	2.10	2.56	3.44
Totals	19.44	30.54	26.52	14.44	20.75	24.49
Monthly averages:						
1960	1.62	2.55	2.21	1.20	1.73	2.04
1959	1.60	1.55	1.48	1.07	1.65	1.73

TABLE 11

SMOKE FILTER AND VOLUMETRIC SULPHUR DIOXIDE APPARATUS

Monthly average concentration of smoke and sulphur dioxide

Smoke		Milligrammes per 100 cubic metres	Sulphur Dioxide		Parts per 100 million
Average	..	15	Average	1.1
Highest	..	31	Highest	2.5
Lowest	6	Lowest	0.4

ANNEX

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH IN RESPECT OF THE YEAR 1960 FOR THE URBAN DISTRICT OF CANNOCK IN THE COUNTY OF STAFFORD

Prescribed particulars on the administration of the Factories Act, 1937

PART I OF THE ACT

I. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of		
		Inspections (3)	Written Notices (4)	Occupiers Prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	9	10	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	114	56	12	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out workers' premises)	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	123	66	12	—

2.—Cases in which defects were found.

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector (4)	By H.M. Inspector (5)	
Want of Cleanliness	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2)	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable Temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4) ..	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7):—					
(a) Insufficient	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
(c) Unsuitable or defective	17	17	—	2	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	—	—	—	—	—
Total	17	17	—	2	—

PART VIII OF THE ACT

Outwork

(Sections 110 and 111)

Section 110				Section 111		
Nature of Work (1)	No. of out-workers in August list required by Section 110 (1) (c) (2)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council (3)	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists (4)	No. of instances of work in unwhole- some premises (5)	Notices served (6)	Prosecutions (7)
All classes of work	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

The following notes on Public Cleansing have been supplied by the Cleansing Superintendent, Mr. C. F. Poole:—

Public Cleansing

The work of the Cleansing Department, in its various aspects, particulars of which are indicated hereunder, has proceeded satisfactorily during the year.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

The removal of refuse from domestic and trade premises has been maintained generally at a weekly frequency.

Five vehicles have been regularly engaged on the work.

The fleet has comprised two 16—18 cubic yards capacity rear loaders, one 10 cubic yards and two 7 cubic yards capacity side loaders with sliding dustproof covers.

The introduction of the larger rear loading type vehicles to supersede the older type side loaders, has proved a distinct advantage, not only as regards economy of haul to tip to match the continuing development of the area, but as an improvement in loading methods and cleaner aspect of refuse removal.

The tonnage of refuse removed weekly, averaged around 460 tons, involving the emptying of some 13,400 bins.

Disposal of refuse has been by controlled tipping. The introduction during the year of a Tractor Dozer for the mechanical spreading of tipped refuse has proved of great value, both economic and practical in dealing with the increased bulk of refuse deposited daily at the tips.

The advantages of mechanical application has resulted in a considerable reduction of manual labour at the tips, prompt spreading and covering of surfaces and embankments, improved compaction, less fire and insect infestation risk, and a relatively improved tidy appearance.

Builders spoil, surplus soil (from estate development and road sweeping material has been used to good effect in the process of sealing of surfaces and embankment.

The use of insecticides by pressure spraying to tip surfaces has greatly reduced the risk of fly and other insect infestation and no serious problem arose in this connection.

The following tips have been in use during the year:—

BURGOYNE STREET land ex gravel pit. Refuse from the central and northern parts of the area was continuously disposed of at this site.

The second phase of raising appreciably the levels over land formerly tipped on in the eastern and central parts has continued.

The prospect of further scope for tipping at this site is envisaged.

WATLING STREET, BRIDGTOWN—SEWAGE WORKS. Refuse from the Cannock and Bridgtown areas was deposited here to raise the levels of land immediately adjoining the sludge lagoons. Operations were completed midway through the summer period and resulted in useful in-filling of an appreciable area of land.

WATLING STREET, CHURCHBRIDGE. Upon completion of the former site, this site was again reverted to for the disposal of refuse from the same localities.

This operation is continuing and a large area for tipping including the partially filled clayhole still remains, which will give approximately a further three years life.

PROSPECT VILLAGE, CANNOCK WOOD. This site continues to accommodate refuse from the area in the immediate vicinity and there remains a life of several years.

LITTLEWORTH ROAD. Tipping of refuse from the northern and eastern parts of the area has continued regularly at this site. This is the second phase of raising the levels of the ground to those previously determined for future use.

The tipping life here is not expected to exceed beyond the Spring of next year.

FUTURE TIPPING SITES. The provision of future tipping sites as long term policy is a matter still under review.

Certain sites are in mind, deliberations on which may reach conclusion during the coming year.

CESSPOOL CLEANSING

In the areas of Cannock Wood, Pye Green and Leacroft where cesspools predominate, a 750 gallon capacity tanker has carried out the work of emptying as a continuous process.

A continuation of the provision of main drainage in certain parts of these areas during the year resulted in a reduction of cesspools, to the extent that though the tanker was still almost fully engaged, the frequency of emptying was improved to generally two to three weeks.

Cesspool contents are discharged into foul water sewers for ultimate sewage disposal works treatment.

GULLY CLEANSING

A continuous rota treatment of gullies throughout the area has operated by either mechanical or manual emptying.

Gully contents are discharged at tip and the material when dried out has formed useful cover to house refuse.

STREET SCAVENGING

This work has been undertaken by manual sweeping on the 'beat' system with street orderly trucks, in combination with 'lengthsmen's' work on which generally, two gangs of men with two 25cwt. capacity motor trucks with sliding dustproof covers have been engaged.

Shopping and town centres received daily treatment whilst a good general coverage throughout the area has maintained a fair standard of tidiness.

Much repeat work continues to be necessary on account of spillage from vehicles in transit, and littering.

The provision of additional litter receptacles and Anti-Litter publicity has continued, but only a slight improvement has been noted and at times the shopping centres are very badly littered.

A greater awareness on the part of the general public in this connection is necessary, having regard to the additional scavenging cost involved in repeat treatment.

The removal of market refuse has been unsatisfactorily dealt with immediately after termination of trading.

PUBLIC SANITARY CONVENIENCES

By the adaptation of certain buildings in Market Hall Street, Cannock, new conveniences for both sexes were provided, and made available in the autumn.

These were intended to supplement the old ones in Market Square pending alteration and extensions thereto, and to meet the need temporarily during the subsequent reconstruction of same.

A high standard of cleanliness has been maintained at female conveniences at Cannock and Hednesford by the work of the lady attendant cleaners.

The cleansing of other conveniences throughout the area by the several visits per day of the male cleaner has resulted generally in the maintenance of a good state of cleanliness.

Misuse, vandalism etc., has still been a disquieting feature however, and costly repairs to water pipes, locks, fittings and defacement of walls and doors have been prevalent.

**Printed by
The Printcraft Press
(Hednesford) Ltd.**